

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISTANB 04401 091441Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 SY-05 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NEA-10 DHA-02 EB-07 /084 W

----- 027725

R 091334Z NOV 76

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8270

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O. 11652: TAGS: PINS, ASEC, TU

SUBJECT: TERRORIST GROUP BOMBS SEVERAL SITES IN

ISTANBUL

1. ISTANBUL NEWSPAPERS CARRIED BRIEF ACCOUNTS IN NOVEMBER 7 EDITIONS OF SEVERAL BOMBINGS BY SUSPECTED TERRORIST GROUP IN VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CITY. A NUMBER OF FOREIGN INSTITUTIONS WERE TARGETS OF ATTACKS. WE HAVE CONFIRMED REPORTS THAT BOMBS WENT OFF IN THE EARLY EVENING HOURS OF NOVEMBER 6 IN FRONT OF EGYPTIAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN BEBEK AREA, EL AL AIRLINE TICKET OFFICE NEAR TAKSIM SQUARE, AND PHILLIPS COMPANY OFFICES, ALSO NEAR TAKSIM AND THAT AN IRANIAN AIRLINES MINIBUS WAS SEVERELY DAMAGED BY A BOMB WHILE PARKED IN BAKIRKOY SECTION OF CITY. ONE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT STATES EXPLOSIVE DEVICE WAS ALSO HURLED AT SYRIAN CONSULATE BUT FAILED TO DETONATE; HOWEVER, POLICE FAILED TO CONFIRM THIS INCIDENT. EXPLOSION AT EL AL WOUNDED ONE PASSERBY, THE ONLY REPORTED CASUALTY IN BOMBINGS.

2. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPERS, AFTER BOMBINGS REPORTERS RECEIVED CALLS FROM UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUALS WHO CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM. THEY WERE VARIOUSLY REPORTED AS CALLING THEMSELVES MEMBERS OF "MARXIST LENINIST ARMED  
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PAGE 02 ISTANB 04401 091441Z

REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL" AND "MARXIST LENINIST ARMED PROPAGANDA

UNIT", AND STATED THEY WERE ENGAGED IN STRUGGLE AGAINST "IMPERIALISM" ON BEHALF OF TURKISH AND KURDISH PEOPLE. THEY ARE ALSO SAID TO HAVE STATED THAT THEY WERE PROTESTING AGGRESSION AGAINST PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, AND WERE FOLLOWING IN PATH OF MAHIR CAYAN. LATTER WAS PROMINENT LEADER OF EXTREME LEFTIST TERRORIST ORGANIZATION TURKISH PEOPLES LIBERATION ARMY IN 1968-72 PERIOD. HE AND NINE OTHER TERRORISTS WERE KILLED IN BLOODY SHOOT-OUT WITH POLICE IN 1972 AFTER THEY KIDNAPPED ONE CANADIAN AND TWO BRITISH TECHNICIANS FROM A NATO RADAR STATION ON BLACK SEA. THREE HOSTAGES ALSO DIED IN ENGAGEMENT.

3. COMMENT: ISRAELI AIRLINES MANAGER TOLD CONGEN OFFICER THAT DAMAGE TO HIS FACILITY WAS SLIGHT, ONLY BROKEN WINDOWS, AND EL AL HEAD OFFICE WAS NOT PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT INCIDENT, VIEWING IT AS PRODUCT OF LOCAL POLITICS. PHILLIPS OFFICIAL INDICATED BOMBING WAS NOT CAUSING UNDUE CONCERN AT HIS HEADQUARTERS. ACCORDING TO ISTANBUL POLICE OFFICIALS, GROUP RESPONSIBLE FOR BOMBINGS PROBABLY CONNECTED WITH TURKISH PEOPLES LIBERATION ARMY. "MARXIST-LENINIST ARMED PROPAGANDA UNIT" IS NAME USED BY GROUP WHICH CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR SERIES OF BOMBINGS IN ISTANBUL EARLIER THIS YEAR (ISTANBUL 1213 AND 1673). ALTHOUGH DAMAGE WAS LIGHT AND ONLY ONE PERSON INJURED IF INDEED SAME GROUP DID CARRY OUT PAST WEEKEND BOMBINGS, IT IS DISTURBING THAT THEY NOW APPEAR TO HAVE FOCUSED ON FOREIGN INSTALLATIONS. PREVIOUS BOMBINGS ATTRIBUTED TO MARXIST-LENINIST ARMED PROPAGANDA UNIT HAD, SO FAR, AS WE ARE AWARE, BEEN DIRECTED ONLY AT TURKISH INSTITUTIONS.  
OGDEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** PINS, ASEC, TU  
**To:** STATE  
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